CLOSED SHELF

The People's Korea

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DPRK Foreign Minister Sends SPA Documents, Foreign Ministry Memorandum to U.N.

PYONGYANG, July 28 (KCNA) – Pak Sung Chul, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent on July 2 the following letter to U Thant, Acting Secretary General of the United Nations:

The Eleventh Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (June 20-21, 1962) discussed the question of launching a nation-wide struggle for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea.

I have the honour of sending you the messages discussed and adopted unanimously at the session as well as the report delivered at the session, copies of which are enclosed therewith. They are:

1. message of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea addressed to parliaments of all countries of the world.

2. message of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea addressed to the Supreme Council for National Reconstruction of the Republic of Korea, the public and political figures and the entire people of South Korea.

3. The text of the report.

I request you to transmit above-mentioned documents as an official record of the United Nations without delay.

Later on July 11, Foreign Minister Pak Sung Chul addressed to U Thant, a letter enclosed with the Memorandum of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated June 24, 1962.

—Anti-A and H-Bombs Meeting Held—

"U.S. Imperialism Threatens World Peace," Says Korean Delegate

The "Preliminary Session of the Eighth World Conference Against A and H Bombs and for Prevention of Nuclear War" opened its 4-day session on Aug. 1 at the Takanawa Prince Hotel in Tokyo.

Attending the session were Korean delegates, other sixty representatives from 8 countries and 8 international organizations as well as some sixty Japanese delegates.

After the opening of the session was declared, Chairman Kaoru Yasui of the Japan Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs made a general report, which was followed by speeches by the representatives.

Later the session adopted a resolution attacking the Japanese government for rejecting the entry into Japan of the delegation of the DPRK.

Delegates from the DPRK could not attend the conference owing to the Japanese government's refusal to permit their entry into Japan.

Six delegates of the DPRK who live in Japan attended the conference, authorized by the National Peace Committee of Korea.

Ri Jin Gyu, chief of the Korean delegation appeared on the platform as the fifth speaker.

His speech follows in part:

Speech by Ri Jin Gyu (Excerpts)

*The present 8th World Conference Against A and H Bombs and for Prevention of Nuclear War is taking place in a grave situation where the danger of war is growing daily, and if the world forces of peace do not act determinedly for the prevention of war, mankind might be involved in a horrible disaster of nuclear war.

*The root cause of international tension is the U.S. imperialists' policy of war and aggression, and U.S. imperialism is the enemy of peace and the ringleader of aggression, war and the world reactionary forces.

*The U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war finds its vivid expression in the southern half of our country. As a result of this, South Korea today has been turned into an advanced base of a nuclear war in the Far East.

*Seventeen years have already elapsed since the liberation of Korea from the yoke of Japanese imperialism, but South Korea is still under U.S. occupation and the national tragedy of territorial division and national split of our country still continues.

*Instead of paying attention to the just proposals for peaceful unification of Korea, by the Government of the Republic, the United States continues its occupation of South Korea. The United States is introducing atomic weapons and guided missiles into South Korea in flagrant violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement and provoking a new war in Korea.

*Meanwhile, the United States is forcing a situation of no political rights, poverty, hunger and social chaos upon the South Korean people, by strengthening the military fascist rule of terror and killing innocent people at random.

*All these facts clearly show that the U.S. troops must be withdrawn from South Korea as early as possible, and that, without this, Korea cannot be unified peacefully and the seeds of war in the Far East cannot be removed.

*In the light of this situation, the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK proposed again to the South Korean side to conclude an agreement on not resorting to armed force against each other and to reduce the numerical strength of both sides to the minimum, on condition that the U.S. troops are completely withdrawn from South Korea.

*There are no foreign troops in North Korea.

*The U.S. imperialists must withdraw from South Korea at once, taking all their lethal weapons with them.

*We, Korean people, will resolutely fight to withdraw all foreign military bases and troops from Asia and to eliminate the danger of nuclear war, in close solidarity with all the peace-loving people the world over.

*We will greatly contribute to preventing nuclear war, achieving general disarmament and preserving and consolidating world peace by further strengthening our struggle for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and for accomplishing peaceful unification of Korea.

*We will positively support the just struggles of the peoples of Japan, South Vietnam, Laos, Indonesia, Cuba, Algeria and all other Asian, African and Latin American countries, and will make continuous efforts to strengthen solidarity with these peoples.

DPRK Olympic Committee Proposes Its South Korean Counterpart to Meet in Panmunjom

PYONGYANG, July 28(KCNA)–The Olympic Committee of the DPRK sent today the following telegram to its South Korean counterpart proposing to discuss the question of forming a single team of North and South Korea for the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo:

The Olympic Committee of the DPRK proposes that representatives of the North and South Korean Olympic Committees meet at Panmunjom on August 20 to discuss the question of forming a single team of North and South Korea for the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo under the decision of the 59th meeting of the International Olympic Committee.

We wait an early reply from your committee to our proposal.

Preliminary Session of the 8th World Conference against A and H Bombs and for Prevention of Nuclear War: Korean delegation leader Li Jin Gyu making a speech at the Session (right, above)

Editorial

U.S. Imperialists Have Obstructed Unification of Korea During Past 17 Years

Seventeen years have already passed since the Korean people were liberated from the Japanese imperialist colonial rule which had continued nearly half a century.

The Korean people are going to greet the 17th anniversary of the August 15 Liberation amid the unprecedented upsurge of their struggle for socialist construction of the northern part of the country and for peaceful unification of their fatherland.

When they were freed from the yoke of Japanese imperialism, the Korean people wished to live together, harmoniously and happily as a powerful and independent nation

This desire of the Korean people are not yet realized 17 years after the Liberation, with Korea still divided into North and South.

The partition of the fatherland is bringing to the Korean people countless misfortunes and tribulations. Such a situation in Korea is the result of the aggressive Korean policy of the United States.

U.S. imperialism, since the first day when they set foot on Korea, has carried out the colonial policy of plunder toward Korea.

If the U.S. imperialists had not occupied South Korea, our fatherland would already be unified.

The U.S. imperialists ignored completely the Potsdam Declaration, decisions by the Three Power Foreign Ministers' Conference in Moscow and other international agreements on the Korean question. They brought unjustifiably the Korean issue before the United Nations and spawned a puppet regime in South Korea to perpetuate the division of Korea.

The U.S. flatly turned down the real and rational proposals by the DPRK on the unification of Korea. Not only that. In 1950 it unleashed an aggressive war against North Korea in order to shatter its socialist system and thereby to change the whole Korea into its colony.

In 1953, the U.S. suffered a shameful defeat before the heroic counterattack of the Korean people and was forced to conclude the Armistice Agreement. However, immediately after the armistice agreement was signed, the U.S. started to violate it, hell-bent on inducting new-type weapons into South Korea, working frantic preparations for a new war.

More recently, dismayed at the mounting movement in South Korea for peaceful unification of the fatherland, the U.S. hatched up the military coup and turned South Korea into a hell on earth–a land where terrorism, murder, starvation and rightlessness are dominant.

As is already clear to every one, U.S. imperialism is the ringleader blocking the way to peaceful unification of Korea.

As long as the U.S. forces are stationed in South Korea, Korea will not be unified. Nor will the South Korean people be saved out of their present sufferings and tribulations.

Therefore, all the Korean people are now fighting to force the U.S. troops out of South Korea.

Prompted by the ardent desire of the Korean people to unify their fatherland, the 11th session of the DPRK Second Supreme People's Assembly, held in June, proposed to the South Korean authorities to launch a nation-wide struggle to compel the U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea.

This proposal constitutes the only way to save South Korean people out of their present critical conditions and solve successfully the Korean question.

Evacuation of the U.S. forces from South Korea–this is a prerequisite for solving the Korean question.

The Korean people will surely force the U.S. troops out of South Korea.

We sincerely hope that the good-minded people the world over, who love justice, freedom and peace, will extend ardent support to the Korean people in their just struggle.

North Korea Two Realities 17 Years

Powerful Democratic Base—Flourishing People's Living

The day of August 15 falls on the 17th anniversary of the liberation of Korea from Japanese rule. 17 years ago, the Korean people were liberated from the harsh, ruthless Japanese imperialists' colonial rule which lasted for 36 years.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a genuine people's fatherland, was founded, where people are achieving daily fresh and miraculous successes, to the surprise of the world people, in their socialist construction. In sharp contrast, in the South of Korea, the national economy was completely destroyed, plunging the people into unprecedentedly miserable living conditions due to the merciless colonial rule by the U.S. imperialists, who are doing everything in their power to realize their aggressive ambition from the first day of their landing there.

No contrast is more distinct than that between the development and prosperity of North Korea and ruin of South Korea during these 17 years.

Greeting the 17th anniversary of the August 15 Liberation, the Korean people are filled with renewed determination to achieve peaceful unification of their fatherland, after the U.S. aggressors are compelled to pull out of South Korea.

The Korean people, liberated from the Japanese imperialist colonial rule thanks to the decisive role played by the Soviet troops in World War II, were provided with conditions favorable for winning democracy and independence for their country.

However, the U.S. imperialists, who occupied South Korea, suppressed every patriotic and democratic force there, while utilizing as their agents landowners, comprador capitalists, pro-Japanese elements and national traitors so as to perpetuate the division of Korea into the North and the South and to turn the whole of Korea into their colony or military base.

The principal situation after the Liberation demanded of the Korean people the task of carrying out an anti-imperialist, anti-feudal revolution for democracy, more concretely, the task of overthrowing the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces and their agents–landowners, comprador capitalists, pro-Japanese and pro-American elements and national traitors–and of creating a unified democratic and independent nation.

Under the circumstances in which the whole of Korea is forcibly divided into two parts by the U.S. imperialists, the establishment of a firm democratic base in the North was most essential for attaining such revolutionary tasks.

Elimination of the semi-feudalistic relations of land ownership by parasitical landlords–the root cause of the centuries-old poverty and subjugation of the Korean people–constituted the content of Korean revolution against feudalism and for democracy, just as the nationalization of key industries was that of Korean revolution against imperialism.

By carrying out successfully these revolutionary measures, the Party not only laid firm foundations for independent economic development of the country, realizing the age-long desire of the Korean peasantry, but also succeeded in enabling the working class to secure leadership, providing for material conditions for a continuous development of social revolution.

The institution of 8-hour day and social insurance systems; the proclamation of democratic laws, among which were equal rights for both sexes and the election law,–these were guarantees for advancing the people's material living standard and defending their democratic rights.

The successful carrying out of these democratic reforms meant that long-cherished aspirations of the Korean people were finally realized. Further, it meant that in North Korea, for the first time in the history of the nation, a democratic system for the people came into existence. Thus, that part of Korea, where there are all the material resources for further consolidating the foundations of socialism, was turned into a powerful democratic base for the earliest realization of the task of national unification.

Part of the Whanghai Iron Works—another expression of the firm democratic base, North Korea

With these achievements as the beginnings, the planned national economy of North Korea was started in 1947. The planned economy was proved successful with production targets having been overfulfilled in all the domains of the economy as the people displayed their zeal for the prosperity and development of their country. This success, which enabled the country to enter a transition period to socialism, was followed by that of the one-year plan (1948) and two-year plan (1949-1950) for developing the national economy, both of which were also carried out successfully.

Meanwhile, these two plans were aimed fundamentally at restoring the major industries of the country, which the Japanese imperialists before their defeat in the last war had completely destroyed. The brilliant successes attained during this restoration period, for example, are shown in the following figures: In 1949, industrial production was 337 and agricultural output 151 per cent higher than the corresponding figures for 1946, or the year just after the termination of the war.

Meanwhile, the capitalist world was plagued by a crisis of over-production, and the crisis was becoming gradually more and more acute. This necessarily compelled the U.S. imperialists to realize that this crisis would weaken the foundations on which they stood and which it was most important for them to maintain, or, their gains as a result of World War II, their absolutely superior position among the leading monopoly capitalist countries of the world.

With an aim to tide over this crisis, which was threatening to develop into a major economic catastrophe, U.S. imperialism, on June 25 of 1950, started an aggressive war against North Korea.

It should not be overlooked that the U.S. imperialists intended to utilize this war as a chanch to carry out their long-plotted plan to launch aggression against the socialist camp as a whole.

However, they made an irrevocable miscalculation.

The Korean people, who rose up resolutely in their struggle to defend their fatherland, defeated completely the self-styled strongest forces of the world, the U.S. aggressors, and their junior partners from 15 other countries.

With this victory in the 3-year bitter struggle, the Korean people successfully defended their freedom and democracy.

In these circumstances, what was required of the Korean people was, among others, to concentrate all their efforts on the struggle for post-war restoration. This imperative task was issued from the need for earliest stabilization of the people's living and for strengthening the democratic base as rapidly as possible as a reliable force for the revolution.

Toward this end, the 3-year plan for developing the national economy of the the post-war period (1954-1956) was started and carried out successfully with production targets overfulfilled in all the fields of the national economy.

The 3-year plan was carried out, for example, with the following results: In 1956, industrial production was 290 per cent higher than the corresponding figure for 1953, or 1.8 times that in 1949. Agricultural output also marked an outstanding increase: far over that in the pre-war period.

The Korean Worker's Party presented the Five-Year Plan (1957-1961) before the people in order to lay firm foundations for a socialist economy, and thereby to solve basically the questions of food, clothing, and shelter for the people on the basis of the ahievements of the 3-year plan.

As a result, the annual average growth rate of industrial output reached 36.6 per cent.

The 4th Congress of the Korean Workers' Party held in September, 1961, which demonstrated the victory and unity of Korean people, adopted targets for the Seven-Year Plan to conquer the heights of socialism, and for making clear the prospects for the peaceful unification of our country.

The ultimate objective of the Seven-Year Plan (1961-1967) lies in carrying out successfully the over-all technical and cultural revolutions, and in raising substantially the people's living standard, depending entirely on the fruitful achievements of the socialist system.

When the targets envisaged in the plan are attained, our country will be developed into a socialist country with most advanced technology and highly developed agriculture, which will be sufficient to restore the devastated South Korean economy, and will provide it with every possible condition for developing it into an advanced, independent country.

The daily might of the democratic base, North Korea, is providing these little hopefuls with everything, material and spiritual, necessary for them to become harmoniously developed people.

These fruitful achievements of the northern part of the country as the base of democracy, not merely guarantee happiness for the people in the northern part but promote peaceful unification of the fatherland and guarantee happiness, freedom for the entire Korean people.

The 11th Session of the 2nd Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea unanimously adopted a resolution for peaceful unification of our country. It demanded that U.S. forces evacuate from South Korea so that the South Korean people who are suffering from their bestial acts may be saved from their present miserable situation.

We will surely win victory in the struggle for peaceful unification of our country and prosperity for our country, forcing U.S. troops to evacuate from South Korea by further intensifying patriotic struggles.

After the Liberation South Korea

Land of Starvation, Unemployment and Rightlessness

Some 2,000 Koryu University students in Seoul holding a demonstration to denounce the U.S. forces for their frequent lynch cases

South Korea has now been turned into a land of death where people are leading a miserable life "unknown in its 4,000-year history."

As soon as the U.S. troops landed on South Korea as uninvited guests on Sept. 18, 1945, the U.S. imperialists utilized this opportunity to realize their long-cherished aggressive design on Korea. They intrigued to change it into their colony and a most important bastion for world conquest.

They started military government, keeping intact the administrative set-ups left by the Japanese imperialists.

The U.S. imperialists went so far as to dissolve forcibly People's Committees organized everywhere in South Korea.

In 1949 alone, 250,000 patriotic people were ruthlessly butchered by the police at the instigation of the U.S. forces. In Cheju Island, some 70,000 or one-fourth of the island's population were killed between 1948 and 1950.

The U.S. imperialists availed themselves of every means and ways to suppress democratic forces on the one hand, and mustered pro-Japanese elements and national traitors on the other, used them as a political prop of their colonial rule.

The U.S. imperialists sabotaged the Soviet-U.S. Joint Commission which was set up to prepare for a democratic, unified, central government, on the basis of the resolutions of the Three Power Foreign Ministers' Conference (Dec.,1945), trampling down the Cairo and Potsdam declarations.

The U.S. imperialists held "election" in South Korea in May, 1948, under the U.N. flag, according to their plan, and unjustifiably cooked up the puppet "Republic of Korea" and embarked on full-scale colonial predation, bent on maintaining the division of Korea.

With an aim to perpetuate their occupation of South Korea, the U.S. imperialists have used every means at hand to suppress the South Korean people, even at bayonet point, whenever they are deemed undesirable to carrying out their aggressive designs.

Further, through "aid" policy,— the most important and crafty means employed by the U.S. to push its economic aggression against the country,—the U.S. imperialists succeeded in setting up a domination machinery which would serve to subjugate completely South Korea's economy to that of the U.S.

As a result, they hold absolute control over the national economy of South Korea, and this control enables them to plunder the people at will.

During these 17 years, meanwhile, they have made all-out efforts to make South Korea an outpost in the Far East to counter what they call "Communists' attack", thus creating the most serious obstacle to peaceful unification of the Korean nation.

In order to rake in profits from South Korea, they have pushed vigorously their policy of colonial subjugation and spoliation of the country. And this policy has been carried through what they call "aid" to South Korea, which now reach no less than 2,800 million dollars in the economic fields, and some 7,500 million dollars in the military sphere.

As much as 78.6 per cent of U.S. "economic" aid to South Korea was used to maintain the armed forces of South Korea.

Using "aid" as a bait, the U.S. imperialists have succeeded in strengthening controls not only over production, circulation and distribution in South Korea but also over loan-financing to factories and other enterprises.

As a result, the South Korean economy is at mercy of the U.S. imperialists and the independent development of the national economy is out of the question.

There are in South Korea 50,000-strong U.S. forces, and a 700,000-strong "national defense" army, the "fourth largest" in the world. They are a crushing burden on the people, who live in abject poverty, constantly exposed to the danger of terror and murder.

The country's industry is severely plundered by the U.S monopoly capitalists and the South Korean comprador capitalists.

Eighty per cent of the factories and enterprises are suspending or curtailing their operations.

Agricultural production is also dwindling due to the U.S. reactionary agricultural policy in South Korea and the influx of U.S. surplus farm produce.

Last year's grain production decreased by 25 per cent over the last years of Japanese imperialist rule. During the same period, the acreage under cultivation declined by 200,000 jungbo (one jungbo is equivalent to 2.45 acres) and the sown acreage by 400,000 jungbo.

As a time when industry and agriculture are collapsing, some 70 per cent of the budget is earmarked for military purposes.

In order to meet the growing expenditures, the South Korean rulers this year are imposing taxes amounting to 220,400 million, a 38,600 million huan increase over last year

Workers work 10-18 hours on an average only to get starvation wages, which are not enough to maintain even the minimum standard of living.

As a result of the collapsing national industry, industrial output is enough to meet only 4.8 per cent of the nation's demand and grain output sharply dropped by 25 per cent from the figure for the last years of Japanese imperialist rule.

Imports last year exceeded exports 20 times in value.

Wholesale prices upped to 190,000 as of August, 1960, as against the figure of 100 in August of 1945.

About 6.6 millions unemployed and under-employed, over 1.6 million households on the threshold of starvation, 6 million gistoma patients, one million tubercular patients, 500,000 orphans, 300,000 prostitutes. The average life expectancy of the South Korean people has dropped to 33. These figures will be enough to show that South Korea is literally a hell on earth.

This miserable situation in South Korea is the the result of the 17-year U.S. colonial rule and its "aid" to South Korea.

After the military coup, last year, the national economy is rolling down the road to total collapse.

Even the New York Times had to admit that "the South Korean economy of last year was in the worst situation since the end of the Korean War. (New York Times, Jan. 1962)

After the recent "currency reform," the economic confusion of the country is aggravated further, completely paralyzing the economic activities.

As a result, according to a UPI report (June 20) from Seoul, as many as 69 per cent of the medium and small enterprises were forced to suspend operation within about 10 days after the reform.

Earlier, on Dec. 26 of last year, Kyonghyang Shinmoon deplored that "people of this country are alive still; they are just breathing."

This miserable situation is caused by the fact that the U.S. imperialists have turned South Korea into their colony, or their military base, destroying the national economy, and precipitating the people into a hell-on-earth where starvation, poverty, bloodshed and suppression reign. Thus, the presence of the U.S. forces in South Korea is the root cause of the destruction of the national economy and of all the hardships the people are suffering.

The greatest obstacle to peaceful unification of Korea is U.S. imperialism, and nothing else.

The U.S. imperialists' criminal acts are not confined only to the ruthless spoliation of the South Korea's national economy and its destruction.

They kill and violate at random innocent Koreans, thus wounding seriously the pride of the Korean people. Especially, rapes which they committed so often upon Korean women are cases in point to demonstrate their bestiality.

The way they commit these brutal acts reminds us how they killed American natives—Indians.

Naturally enough, these acts by U.S. outlaws have aroused among the Korean people daily growing national indignation and hatred. An instance of this is a demonstration march, which Koryu University students, together with a large number of youths and students of the country, held on June 6 of this year, defying strict martial law, to denounce the U.S. authorities for the so-called "Pajoo Lynch Incident."

Today, the South Korean people, through their struggle, fully realize that the only way out of their present despairing situation lies in the earliest achievement of national unification. And they realize equally well that only peaceful unification of their fatherland will promise their happiness.

Further, they know as well that in order to realize this national task, it is most necessary—of all the necessary things—to force the U.S. imperialists to pull out of South Korea immediately!

A recent appeal and proposal issued and made by the 11th session of the 2nd Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to the South Korean authorities are aimed at meeting this South Korean people's burning desire. These are the only just and patriotic measures, clarifying once again the pressing tasks confronting the Korean nation, to overcome these difficulties.

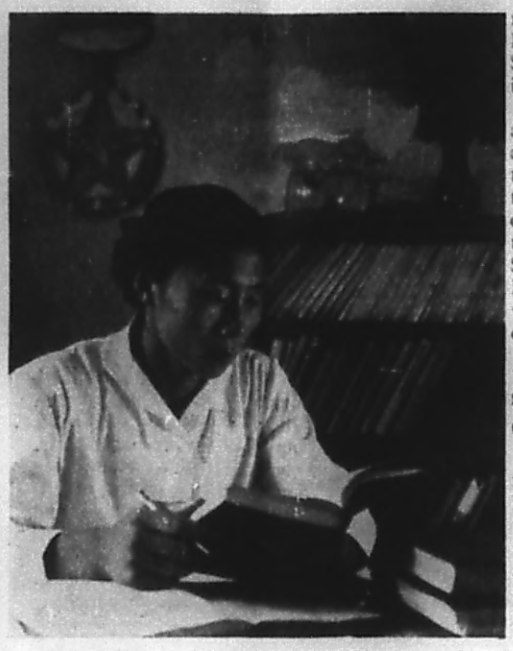
In other words: South Korea's reality itself (under the forcible occupation of the U.S. forces) demanded this appeal and the proposal. Therefore, no one, if national-conscious, is permitted to turn their back to their supreme national tasks.

Only uncompromising struggle against the U.S. imperialists, (the mortal enemy of the Korean people), to compel them to withdraw from South Korea,—and for realizing the national unification at the earliest opportunity, will lead them to national prosperity, saving them from the present catastrophic situation.

Victory in this struggle will certainly be theirs, if the entire Korean people concentrate all their efforts on carrying out the appeal and proposal of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Today in S. Korea, there are no less than 6,600,000 jobless persons. Even those who were fortunate enough to get jobs are working like slaves at starvation wages, deprived of all sorts of democratic rights and freedom.

Shin Keum Dan, Best Daughter Born in Era of Workers' Party



Shin Keum Dan in her study. She is much interested in reading. "Reminiscences of anti-Japanese partisan fighters," is one of her most favorite books.

Sports fans the world over are watching with keen interest Shin Keum Dan, a 24-year-old famous Korean runner whom the era of the Workers' Party has produced.

The world record breaker won in the women's 400-metre and 800-metre events at the International Track and Field Contest of Znamensky Brothers, held between June 30 and July 1 in Moscow.

She improved by 0.4 seconds the world record (53.4 seconds) in the 400 metres event set by Soviet champion Mariya Itkina in 1959 and bettered 2.9 seconds the world record (2: 4.3) in the 800-metre event set by Soviet runner Lyudmila Sheptosova in 1960.

She made such brilliant successes at the contest that it was called a "contest held for Shin Keum Dan to break world records."

—In a short space of time—

She was not yet known in the sports world when she participated in the National Athletic Meet held four years ago in September of 1958.

But six months later she was already an athlete of an international standing.

In 1959, she visited the Soviet Union, China, Bulgaria and Poland to compete with foreign champions at international contests, where she renewed 19 DPRK records.

In 1960, she set a fine record of 53 seconds in the 400-metre event at the Korea-China-Mongolia Friendship Athletic Meeting held in Pyongyang, bettering by 0.4 seconds the previous world record of 53.4 seconds.

Later in May of 1961, she marked a record of 2: 1.2 in the 800-metre event, bettering by 3.1 seconds the previous world record of 2: 4.3.

The successes she has made in such a short period of time is attributable to the correct athletic policy of the Korean Workers' Party and her tireless endeavors.

—From lathe turner to world champion—

Shin Keum Dan was born in 1938 at Raheung, South Hamgyung Province.

When she was a little girl, her family went to China in search of a livelihood. Like many other Korean girls, she spent a hard life under Japanese imperialism.

In 1945 when Korea was liberated from the Japanese imperialists, she came back to the fatherland and started a new life.

After graduating from a technical training school in Hichun, she worked as a lathe turner at a machine-making factory there.

In 1958 she participated in a sports meet held at the Moranbong Stadium, Pyongyang, to make her debut in the sports world.

—Bookworm—

Every visitor is surprised to find a great number of books in her room, which looks like a small library. She is a bookworm.

One of her most favorite books is "Reminiscences of anti-Japanese partisan fighters." She is also a music and drama fan.

—My greatest desire is to see the North and South of our country unified—

As North Korea is not yet admitted into the International Amateur Athletic Federation, such wonderful records set by her are not officially recognized as "world records." For the same reason, she cannot attend the coming Fourth Asian Games scheduled to open on Aug. 25 in Djakarta.

She says:

"I want to compete with champions of all countries. To realise this wish, too, I'll make efforts to help force the U.S. troops out of South Korea and unify the North and the South."

Shin Keum Dan breasts the tape, breaking the world's record in the women's 400-metre event in the Znamensky Memorial Meet. (Above)
Shin Keum Dan receiving congratulations by her competitors after she set up a new world record in the women's 800-metre race in the Znamensky Memorial Meet in Moscow (Below)

Policy of Korean Workers' Party for Peaceful Unification of Country (13)

(Continued)

Meanwhile, the Three Power Foreign Ministers' Conference (held in Moscow, in December of 1945, to chart the future course of Korea) adopted a resolution to the effect that Korea should be developed into a democratic state and that, for this purpose, a unified, democratic provisional government be established as early as possible.

However, the fact is that the U.S. imperialists did not welcome this resolution, because they knew clearly that measures taken according to this resolution would surely place serious impediments in the way of their designs to turn Korea into their eternal colony.

After the conference, which they failed in leading in the direction they had planned, the U.S. imperialists started sabotaging the implementation of the resolution, without renouncing their aggressive aims.

Hiding from public view the truth about the conference, they launched what they called a "campaign against a trusteeship of Korea," and did everything in their power to mobilize all the reactionary elements to push this movement.

In the Soviet-U.S. Joint Commission, which met for the purpose of finding ways and means to carry out the resolution of the Moscow Conference, the U.S. imperialists insisted on forming in Korea a reactionary regime, with pro-U.S. and pro-Japanese reactionaries as the core, instead of a democratic provisional government.

The political situation in Korea became very complex. Supported by the U.S. imperialists, the domestic reactionary forces availed themselves of this opportunity to raise again their heads, and rose up vigourously in campaigns against the resolution.

Still worse, these campaigns were supported and participated in by both the factionalists, headed by Pak Heun Yung, and the nationalist elements, who had smuggled themselves into the ranks of the Party.

Thus, not a little confusion and suspicion were created among the masses.

This tensed situation brought the following question to the fore more clearly than ever: The question of who will lead the masses, is directly related to that of which class should conquer political power.

Thus, the struggle for political power started for the first time after the Liberation between the rightist reactionaries and the progressive and democratic forces.

Measures, which were taken timely by the Party at this critical juncture, enabled the people to overcome difficulties arising from the situation at that time.

The Party made all-out efforts to develop Korea along the course of democracy, and realize, as resolved at the Moscow Conference, the establishment of a unified, democratic provisional government in Korea as early as possible. For this purpose, it was necessary to expose thoroughly to public view and smash the ugly U.S. machinations to obstruct the implementation of the resolution of the Conference.

To lay bare completely the U.S. imperialists' aggressive scheme, the Party organized and developed political campaigns in all fronts throughout the South and North of Korea. It also developed wide and intensive mass movements to support the resolution, while, at the same time, dealing, as occasion demanded, decisive blows at the factionalists and unsteady elements who were engaged in anti-Party maneuvers within the Party.

(In the course of these movements, in the northern part of Korea, democratic political parties and social organizations issued a joint statement in support of the resolution of the Moscow Conference, after reactionary forces including those within the North Korean Democratic Party had been utterly defeated, whereas, in the southern half, mass rallies held originally for the purpose of opposing "trusteeship" for Korea came out in support for the resolution.)

Further, immediately after the first session of the Soviet-U.S. Joint Commission, the Party announced a 20-point political program. The program, based on the age-old aspiration of the Korean people, defined the character of a unified, democratic provisional government to be established in Korea and the tasks to be fulfilled by this government. As a result, this program enabled the Korean people to see clearly the target of their struggle which it was of urgent necessity to launch at that time.

Further, this program made public by the Party won ardent support from the people throughout the country, and became a torch to throw light on the road they were to follow.

Thanks to such flexible activities conducted by the Party, the Korean people defeated any heinous plot by the U.S. imperialists and their accomplices.

Struggles led the people to awaken politically more than before and, accordingly, the ties of the Party with the masses was closer and tighter.

The real nature of the enemies was exposed thoroughly to public view. They were isolated more and compelled to retreat further, unable any longer to fill the growing gap between them and the masses.

At the Soviet-U.S. Joint Commission, the U.S. imperialists were forced to lose completely the initiative, particularly because of the increasing denunciation of the U.S. by the Korean masses.

This achievement in the struggle of the Korean people for political power was not, of course, won so easily.

It is worthy of special note that this achievement was made under conditions of those days, in which Party organizations in the country were not yet consolidated so much as they are today in North Korea. Particularly it should not be overlooked that, in those days, the people in the northern part of the country were engaged in the enterprise of first importance, namely, the task of turning the North into a democratic base as early as possible, and that this task was being carried out in the midst of the subversive activities of the Pak Heun Yung clique to prevent this task from being fulfilled. **(To be continued)**

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